(a) whether the Indian diplomatic Mission in Fiji had to be closed in June, 1990;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) in what manner the Government of India is looking after the interests of people of Indian origin in Fiji?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The authorities in Fiji asked India on May 23, 1990, to close down its mission in Suva.

(c) The Government of India believes that restoration of democracy and recial harmony in Fiji is the sine qua non of ensuring the welfare of the people of Indian origin in that country.

Accordingly, the Government has vigorously pursued these concerns at international organisations and at a bilateral level with countries such as Australia , New Zealand, France, UK, USA and Mauritius.

**Drilling Operation in Vietnam by ONGC**

1611. SHRI SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA: Will the Minster of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far by the ONGC about the oil-well drilling operation in Vietnam ; and

(b) the plan programme chalked out for 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) ONGC Videsh Limited has so far drilled two exploratory wells in Vietnam. The first exploratory well was found to be dry while the second exploratory well had to be abandoned due to technical reasons.

(b) The programme for 1992-93 is still to be finalised.

[*Translation*]

**Allocation of Kerosene to Uttar Pradesh**

1612. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of kerosene allocated to Uttar Pradesh during the last one year;

(b) whether any request has been received for increasing the quota of kerosene for Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The quantity of kerosene allocated to Uttar Pradesh during 1991-92 (April-March) is 905891 MT.

(b) and (c). No such request for enchancing the regular quota of kerosene has been received recently from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Requests, whenever received, are considered and decisions taken keeping in view various factors including products availability, natural calamity etc.

[English]

**LPG Connection**

1613. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the number of LPG connections sanctioned during the period from November, 1990 to December, 1991, State-wise/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): A statement is enclosed.

**STATEMENT**

| *Sl. No.* | *State/Union Territory* | *Number of Connections released from Nov.1990 To December, 1991.* |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 49690 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1609 |
| 3. | Assam | 10064 |
| 4. | Bihar | 26156 |
| 5. | Goa | 2490 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 34597 |
| 7. | Haryana | 27381 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 5939 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 12156 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 42128 |
| 11. | Kerala | 40673 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 23894 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 54638 |
| 14. | Manipur | 260 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 1997 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 756 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 1794 |
| 18. | Orissa | 15692 |
| 19. | Punjab | 26144 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 35318 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 1012 |

| *Sl. No.* | *State/Union Territory* | *Number of Connections released from Nov.1990 To December, 1991.* |
|---|---|---|
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 35525 |
| 23. | Tripura | 505 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 81052 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 44137 |
| 26. | Andaman & car Nicobar | 857 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 3503 |
| 28. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 335 |
| 29. | Delhi | 51506 |
| 30. | Daman & Diu | 315 |
| 31. | Lakshdweep | 93 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 309 |

**Mahajan Commission Report on Karnataka-Kerala-Maharashtra Border Issue**

1614. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the opinion of the Union Government in respect of the Mahajan Commission Report on Karnataka-Kerala-Maharashtra border issue;

(b) whether any decision has been taken to implement the Mahajan Commission Report;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB) : (a) to (c). The question of Central Government forming an opinion about the Mahajan Commission Report on Maharashtra-Karnataka-Kerala border dispute does not arise as he recommendations of the said Commission are to be accepted by the concerned State Governments in the first instance. However, the recommendations did not evoke the necessary measure of acceptability and differences continue to persist.

(d) The Central Government is of the view that the problem is to be primarly settled by the concerned States by mutual consultation.